Coastal Observations Internet Map Server

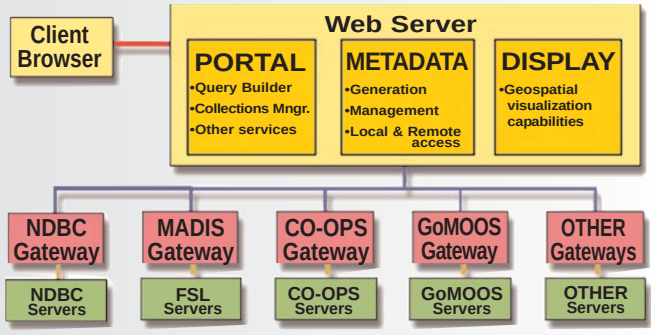
National Coastal Data Development Center

www.ncddc.noaa.gov

There are a variety of observing systems that routinely monitor the coastal environment. These include federally operated or managed observing systems that are national in scope. Examples are the array of moored buoys and fixed coastal stations managed by the National Data Buoy Center, the National Water Level Observing Network operated by the National Ocean Service, U. S. Geological Survey network of stream gages, and land surface weather observations. In addition there are systems that focus only on a particular coastal region, port, or estuary, and may be operated by universities, the private sector, or federal, state or local agencies.

The Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) will integrate existing systems with an increased number of regionally managed in situ and remote observing systems to improve public safety, monitor the health of our ecosystems, and enhance our understanding of long term climate trends. The IOOS will be developed jointly among federal agencies (coordinated via the Ocean.US Office) and a National Federation of Regional Associations. These Regional Associations will manage the regional coastal observing systems based on regional priorities.

NCDDC has developed gateways to provide access to observing system data. Internet users can search an on-line metadata catalog and retrieve observed data from distributed data storage locations.



The Coastal Observation Internet Map Server provides a common, geospatially referenced view of real-time and recent coastal and ocean observations. The site includes marine and land surface weather observations, oceanographic observations, and will be expanded to include coastal water level and stream gage observations.

Map Server showing observations during Hurricane Frances.

Support of IOOS Data Management and Communication (DMAC) Subsystem:

- Data Description (FGDC metadata development)
- Data Discovery (NCDDC Metadata Catalog)
- Interoperable access of data from client applications (NCDDC Middleware, OPenDAP)
- Data Visualization (ArcIMS Map Service)
- Data archival and retrieval (facilitate archival at National Centers)

For more information:

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- Please visit our web site: **http://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/COOS**

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